

In the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following:

Background

In recent years, due to the requirement of reduction in cost for drilling of oil wells, construction methods have been developed in which pipe expansion is performed in a well using an expanding process (see, for example, PCT Japanese Translation Patent Publication No. 7-5676107-507610 and WO 98/00626). Hereinafter, this construction method is called a “solid expandable tubular system.” According to this solid expandable tubular system, a casing is expanded radi-ally in a well. Compared to a conventional construction method, when the same well radius is to be ensured, each of the diameters of individual sections forming a casing having a multistage structure can be decreased. In addition, since the size of a casing for an exterior layer of an up-per portion of the well can also be decreased, the cost for drilling a well can be reduced.